



Heritage Commission

Minutes

17 Feb 2021

Mary Herbert Room

233 Atlantic Avenue

Present:

Jane Currivan
Donna Etela, Chair
Vicki Jones

Carol Seely
Cynthia Swank

Alternates: Jane Robie (via Zoom)

Absent: Jim Maggiore, Jeff Hillier, Nancy Monaghan

1. Call to Order at 9:35am. A quorum was present. A motion per RSA92-A:2:3 to allow Robie to participate electronically was approved unanimously by roll call vote. (Jones moved, Seely seconded)
2. Treasurer's Report. As of 1/30/2022 the Commission has a total of \$8676.84 -- \$1000 in the operating budget and the rest in the Heritage Commission fund. The report was approved unanimously by roll call vote. [Currivan, Jones]
3. Approval of Minutes. The 27 January 2022 minutes as prepared were approved unanimously by roll call vote. [Jones, Currivan]
4. Old Business
Historic District/Centennial Hall. Jones indicated that Mausolf has not finished her research yet. There was a wide-spreading discussion covering the following:
 - The Centennial Hall Director has invited both the Heritage Commission and North Hampton Historical Society to hold their meetings there.
 - The Hobbs family has a portrait of J.W.F. Hobbs that was on display for the Town's 275th anniversary celebration.
 - The probability that a Lafayette Trail marker will be placed on the Common further strengthens the case for including the Common in the Historic District.

- There was speculation that owners of certain private properties in the area might also wish to be included.
- The chain of title that Noah Robie prepared for the Lafayette Trail organization regarding the Leavitt Tavern may be of particular interest to the current property owners. Also part of the Tavern was moved to another nearby private property.

PastPerfect Public Access/Web site public education.

The public access database is now available on the Town website, Heritage Commission page, left sidebar, Online Collections. Swank's suggestions for outreach include:

- Friday Folder
- next issue of Community Newsletter
- contact Heritage Commissions where we have a contact
- contact NH Division of Historical Resources and NH Preservation Alliance
- social media -- This suggestion prompted agreement to ask Nancy Jane Luff if she will provide on NH Talks the link accompanied with an image

Coastal Hazards Master Plan. Hillier was attending the last meeting of the group at the same time the Commission was meeting.

Master Plan Draft

Jones is updating the table and will distribute soon and send one to Planning Zoning Administrator Rick Milner for his reactions. Swank noted that among outreach the Commission may well be involved in local efforts for the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the U.S. happening in July 2026.

Alternate Positions

Etela urged all to continue thinking and soliciting individuals.

Action Items. None that had not already been discussed.

5. New Business

Etela announced two new items have cropped up due to messages she received only yesterday. Barn Easement at 146 Post Road; and NH Department of Transportation *re* North Hampton portion of Rail Trail.

Current Barn Easements

Etela distributed a list of the current barn easements. The barns are Drake Farm/Hubbington's Furniture at 148 Lafayette; large bank barn at 79 South Road; J.S. Hobbs House at 28 Hobbs Road; Dale Farm at 182 Post Road; Hobbs Farm/Throwback Brewery at 2 Elm Road; Chapman/Philbrick House at 83 Walnut Ave; and David Page, Sr. House at 75 Exeter Road.

Etela stated that the owner of the barn at 146 Post Road, Chris Lane, contacted her and indicated his interest in a barn easement and the actions he is taking to have a professional, Matt Diana Housewright, disassemble, make repairs, and return the restored barn to its

original foundation. A long discussion ensued about the timing for an application for a barn easement, and whether the building inspector would require an application for a demolition permit, triggering a demo review by the Heritage Commission. The consensus was no action by the Commission was needed at this time, and to let the owner, his contractor, and the building inspector make their choices about the order in which to proceed. It was suggested that the NH Preservation Alliance whose contact Etela has already provided might be able to offer useful examples from around the state to Lane.

HC Nominations

Swank's term is up this year; all alternates' terms are also up only. Swank and Robie agreed to be renominated. Etela will check with Hillier to see if he is willing to continue as an alternate.

NH Department of Transportation/Drake Bridge/RailTrail

Etela received an email from the NH DOT regarding the Rail Trail and what historic and culturally significant properties border the trail. She will provide information and copies of the Heritage Commission's Memorandum of Agreement with the NH DOT regarding Drake's Bridge in advance of the Select Board's March 14 meeting when representatives of NH DOT will be on the agenda.

The NH DOT request to the Commission for historic resources along the trail can be compiled easily or the DOT referred to the 2018 town-wide area historic resources survey. It was noted that both the corridor and the Town Hall/Depot area of town were deemed eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Also that we need to make sure the DOT realizes the Commission is a consulting party for any Section 106 projects.

6. Next Meeting Date & Time. March 17, 2022 at 9:30am

7. Adjournment. 11:03am

Cynthia G. Swank
Recording Secretary